

ABSTRACT

This invention provides a rolling method and a rolling apparatus, for flat-rolled metal materials capable of stably producing flat-rolled metal materials not having, or having extremely little, camber. A rolling method for a flat-rolled metal material uses rolling equipment including a rolling mill and at least a pair of pinch rolls for clamping a rolled material on the exit side of the rolling mill having a mechanism in which either one, or both, of upper and lower roll assemblies have a mechanism for supporting a work roll by split backup rolls split into at least three segments in an axial direction, the split backup roll group having a construction for supporting both a vertical direction load and a rolling direction load acting on the contacting work roll and each of the split backup rolls independently having a load measuring device. The method comprises the steps of directly measuring, or calculating on the basis of a predetermined measurement value, either one, or both, of left-right balance of a rolling direction force acting on a rolled material from the pinch rolls and the left-right balance of a rolling direction force acting on the work roll of the rolling mill through the rolled material; and controlling a left-right swivelling component of a roll gap of the rolling mill on the basis of the measured value or the calculated value of the left-right balance of the rolling direction force.